

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 201(3) of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 (10 U.S.C. 7422)(c)(2), I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the naval petroleum reserves for a period of 3 years from April 5, 2000, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Attached is a copy of the report investigating the necessity of continued production of the reserves as required by 10 U.S.C. 7422(c)(2)(B). In light of the findings contained in that report, I certify that continued production from the naval petroleum reserves is in the national interest.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 8, 1999.*

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence or the Senate, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1907. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide enhanced protection for inventors and innovators, protect patent terms, reduce patent litigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was discharged from the Committee on Rules and Administration and ordered placed on the calendar:

S. 1593. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1232. A bill to provide for the correction of retirement coverage errors under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code (Rept. No. 106-178).

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 935. A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to authorize research to promote the conversion of biomass into biobased industrial products, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-179).

By Mr. GRAMM, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1712. An original bill to provide authority to control exports, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-180).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 1711. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in conjunction with the minting of coins by the Republic of Iceland in commemoration of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1711. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a deferral of tax on gain from the sale of telecommunications businesses in specific circumstances or a tax credit and other incentives to promote diversity of ownership in telecommunications businesses; to the Committee of Finance.

By Mr. GRAMM:

S. 1712. An original bill to provide authority to control exports, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1713. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend for an additional 2 years the period for admission of an alien as a nonimmigrant under section 101(a)(15)(S) of such Act, and to authorize appropriations for the refugee assistance program under chapter 2 of title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 1714. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow penalty-free distributions from qualified retirement plans of individuals residing in presidentially declared disaster areas; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 1715. A bill to provide for an interim census of Americans residing aboard, and to require that such individuals be included in the 2010 decennial census; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GRAMS:

S. Res. 200. A resolution designating the week of February 14-20 as "National Biotechnology Week."; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 1710. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in conjunction with the minting of coins by the Republic of Iceland in commemoration of the millennium of the discovery of the New World by Leif Ericson; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

LEIF ERICSON MILLENNIUM COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Leif Ericson Millennium Commemorative Coin Act along with my colleague Senator ROD GRAMS from Minnesota. This bipartisan legislation would authorize the

U.S. Mint to issue a coin jointly with the Icelandic National Bank in commemoration of Leif Ericson and his voyage and exploration of North America. The famous Viking explorer is regarded as the first European to set foot on North American soil in the year 1000 AD. Next year marks the 1000th anniversary of Leif Ericson's Voyage of Discovery and this coin will commemorate this landmark event in North American history. This same legislation passed the House on July 19, 1999, and passed both the House and the Senate as amendments during the 105th Congress.

The Government of Iceland is an important North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally and this action would reiterate our strong relationship with and support for their nation. Iceland votes with the United States on virtually all United Nations and NATO issues and has formulated foreign policies parallel to ours. They also are cutting costs at our military base in Keflavik. Iceland has refrained from whaling, encouraged more U.S. trade and investment and initiated a partnership with the State of Alaska. The Government of Iceland has already approved a silver 1000 Kronor Icelandic coin to be produced by the U.S. Mint that will be packaged and issued simultaneously with the U.S. Leif Ericson Commemorative Coin. We believe jointly issuing these coins will help further relations between our nations.

Mr. President, the United States Congress strengthened United States-Icelandic relations by presenting a Leif Ericson statue as a gift to Iceland in 1930 as a gesture of memorializing Ericson's Voyage of Discovery. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson made October 9 "Leif Ericson Day" in commemoration of this famous Norwegian Viking explorer. The Leif Ericson Commemorative Coin in the year 2000 would commemorate the millennial anniversary of Ericson's voyage and would display our commitment to continuing this relationship for the coming millennium.

Mr. President, the Leif Ericson Millennium Commemorative Coin Act allows a simultaneous issuance of a commemorative U.S. silver dollar coin and a silver 1000 Kroner Icelandic coin. Both coins are to be produced in limited mintages, with U.S. Mint issuing a boxed set. Mint and surcharge proceeds from the coins will fund scholarships and student exchange programs between Iceland and United States. The U.S. Mint has read and approved the identical House version as meeting all the guidelines contained in the 1995 Congressional House Banking Committee Commemorative Coins Reforms Act, which protects the taxpayer from any costs. We feel such a coin is an important step in recognizing the important role Iceland has played in North American history. In the coming days, I will be talking to my colleagues in